

MAR 13 2015

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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REPLACING THE TERM "AFRICAN AMERICAN" WITH "AMERICAN OF AFRICAN  
DESCENT" AS A RACE CATEGORY USED IN SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY  
THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, the race and ethnicity categories used in state  
2 surveys describe the groups to which individuals belong,  
3 identify, or belong in the eyes of the community; and  
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5 WHEREAS, race categories include: American Indian or Alaska  
6 Native; Asian; Black or African American; Native Hawaiian or  
7 Other Pacific Islander; and White; and  
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9 WHEREAS, race and ethnicity categories, as used in surveys  
10 conducted by the State of Hawaii, are generally self-identifying  
11 data items in which a survey respondent may choose the race or  
12 races and ethnicity with which they most closely identify; and  
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14 WHEREAS, many individuals do not identify with the "African  
15 American" category because it does not adequately describe this  
16 culturally diverse and ethnically unique group; and  
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18 WHEREAS, the term "American of African Descent" is a  
19 broader representation of an individual's race and ethnicity,  
20 and this term should replace "African American" in surveys  
21 conducted by the State of Hawaii; now, therefore,  
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the  
25 House of Representatives concurring, that the term "American of  
26 African Descent" should be used as a race category in place of  
27 "African American" for surveys conducted by the State of Hawaii;  
28 and



# S.C.R. NO. 123

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor.  
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OFFERED BY:

*Gal Riviere BR*

